

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

EGON HAAR ET AL

EXAMINER: CHI Q NGUYEN

SERIAL NO.:

10/031,558

GROUP:

3635

FILED:

MAY 28, 2002

FOR:

DEVICE FOR COMPENSATING RELATIVE VERTICAL DISPLACEMENTS BETWEEN GROUND SURFACES AND SEALING MECHANISMS WITH A FRAME, FOR BUILT-IN STRICTURES, AND AUXILIARY DEVICE FOR THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

MAR 2 2 2004

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In response to the Office letter of November 21, 2003 and preliminary to examining the claims in the concurrently filed Request for Continuing Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7.